

Provisional Vital Statistics for January 2004

Live births decreased in January as 4,950 Missourians were born compared with 5,774 in January 2003. Births for the 12 months ending with January also decreased. However, the provisional estimate of 76,600 live births for calendar year 2003 is the highest Missouri birth total since 1991.

Deaths decreased in January as 4,469 Missourians died compared with 4,879 one year earlier. The provisional 2003 count of 54,900 deaths was 1.3 percent lower than the final 2002 total of 55,636 deaths.

The **Natural increase** in January was 481 (4,950 births minus 4,469 deaths). For the 12 months ending with January, the natural increase rose by 10 percent.

Marriages increased in January, but decreased for the 12 months ending with January. Provisional 2003 marriages went below 40,000 for the first time since 1965.

Dissolutions of marriage decreased in January and for the 12 months ending with January. The provisional 2003 number of 22,300 dissolutions is the lowest since 1974.

The **Infant death** rate decreased by 7 percent in 2003 from 8.6 to 7.9 per 1,000 live births, but it is still the second highest rate since 1994.

PROVISIONAL RESIDENT VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI

<u>January</u>					<u>12 months ending with January</u>								<u>Provisional</u>	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>			<u>Rate*</u>					2004	
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	
Live Births	5,774	4,950	12.3	10.9	73,538	76,847	74,706	14.0	13.0	13.5	13.1	76,600	13.5	
Deaths	4,879	4,469	10.4	9.8	52,814	57,160	52,996	9.7	9.4	10.1	9.3	54,900	9.7	
Natural increase	895	481	1.9	1.1	20,724	19,687	21,710	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.8	21,700	3.8	
Marriages	1,935	2,371	4.1	5.2	42,334	41,872	40,422	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.1	39,900	7.0	
Dissolutions	1,711	1,491	3.6	3.3	23,516	22,434	22,226	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.9	22,300	3.9	
Infant deaths	55	35	9.5	7.1	571	679	587	7.2	7.8	8.8	7.9	605	7.9	
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,704	5,738	...	...	...	5,598	5,640	5,676	5,707	...	5,673

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1,000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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